

Minutes of December 8, 2022 Board Meeting – 9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Members Present: John Gaddis, DO, Vice-Chair; John Brewer, DO, Board Secretary; Lisa Ryan, DO; Christine Munroe, DO; Peter Michaud, Public Member; Brian Gillis, DO; Gust Stringos, DO. Members Excused: Rebecca Vose, PA-C; Malcolm Leary, Public Member and Melissa Michaud, PA-C, Board Chair

Others Present: Susan E. Strout, Executive Secretary; Savannah Okoronkwo, Consumer Assistance Specialist; Lisa Wilson, Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General; Det. Lauren Edstrom, Office of the Attorney General; Emily Bloch, Esquire; Amanda Richards, Executive Director, Maine Osteopathic Association; MPHP¹ Clinical Coordinators Chelsea Pherigo, Heidi Wright, and Jennifer Bailey

Complaint and investigative reviews are held in Public Session without the use of any names unless otherwise noted.

I. Review of Complaints, Investigations and Compliance Matters

Complaints

A. CR2021 47 – Dr. Gaddis, Case Reporter

Dr. Gaddis provided an overview of the materials reviewed by all members and following discussion, the Board took this action:

MOTION: Made by Dr. Stringos and seconded by Mr. Michaud with the vote, via roll call, being unanimous to dismiss the complaint as it did not rise to a level which would require further Board action. The Case Reporter abstained from voting.

B. CR2022 09 – Mr. Michaud, Case Reporter

Mr. Michaud updated the Board that the anticipated report was not available as the licensee's attorney had not seen the Board's e-mail. The attorney, with his apologies, noted that the report will be submitted as soon as possible.

MOTION: Made by Dr. Brewer and seconded by Dr. Ryan with the vote, via roll call, being unanimous to table any action on this matter until the January 2023 meeting. The Case Reporter abstained from voting.

C. CR2022 18 – Dr. Stringos, Case Reporter

Dr. Stringos provided an overview of the materials reviewed by all members and following discussion, the Board took this action:

MOTION: Made by Dr. Brewer and seconded by Dr. Ryan with the vote, via roll call, being unanimous to dismiss the complaint as it did not rise to a level which would require further Board action. The Case Reporter abstained from voting.

¹ Medical Professionals Health Program

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D. CR2022 28 – Dr. Gaddis, Case Reporter

Dr. Gaddis noted that the licensee has signed a Consent Agreement and the Board took this action:

MOTION: Made by Mr. Michaud and seconded by Dr. Brewer with the vote, via roll call, being unanimous to accept the Consent Agreement as written and signed by the licensee. The Case Reporter abstained from voting.

E. CR2022 32 – Dr. Brewer, Case Reporter

Dr. Brewer provided an overview of the dismissed case, noting it was being brought back due to concerns that the complainants rebuttal may not have been reviewed by all members. Following discussion, the Board stood by its November 2022 vote to dismiss the complaint.

INVESTIGATIONS

Mr. Michaud recused himself from any participation in this matter.

F. IN2022 49 – Dr. Gillis, Case Reporter

Following an overview from Dr. Gillis and the ensuing discussion which included concern for the licensee, the Board took this action:

MOTION: Made by Dr. Brewer and seconded by Dr. Ryan with the vote, via roll call, being unanimous the file a complaint on the Board’s own motion and to require both a mental health and substance misuse evaluation. The Case Reporter abstained from voting.

Mr. Michaud rejoined the meeting at this time.

COMPLIANCE

G. Elliot Gruen, DO – Dr. Brewer, Case Reporter

Dr. Brewer noted that this matter remains in a tabled state pending information from the licensee that he has officially transitioned his patients to other providers, is no longer prescribing and has closed his practice.

II. Board Meeting Minutes/Revenue & Expense Reports

A. Board Meeting Minutes

Following review of the November 10, 2022 meeting minutes, the Board took this action:

MOTION: Made by Ms. Munroe and seconded by Dr. Gillis with the vote, via roll call, being unanimous to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2022 meeting as written.

B. Revenue & Expense Reports

Due to the early meeting date, the reports had not yet been received.

III. Federation of State Medical Boards

Board members noted the Board of Directors meeting highlights. No Board action was necessary.

IV. Other Business

A. Draft Board Policies

Board members reviewed and discussed the proposed changes and new policies which affect new applications and took this action:

MOTION: Made by Dr. Munroe and seconded by Dr. Ryan to accept the proposed updated and new policies with the changes noted during discussion.

V. Licensure Matters

A. Richard DeCarolus, D.O. – CME Issue

Following review and discussion, the Board took this action regarding the slight shortage reported by the licensee:

MOTION: Made by Mr. Michaud and seconded by Dr. Brewer with the vote, via roll call, being unanimous to approve an extension through February 28, 2023 for the licensee to obtain the remainder of his AOA Category 1 hours.

B. Benjamin Russell, D.O. – CME Issue

Following review and discussion, the Executive Secretary noted that the licensee had notified the office that he had indeed obtained his statutorily required 40 Category 1 hours. Pursuant to the Board's CME rule, as a surgeon, he is allowed to count AMA Category 1 hours. No Board action necessary; license to be renewed.

C. Review of Permanent Licensure Applications

Following review and discussion regarding applications, the Board took these actions:

MOTION: Made by Dr. Stringos and seconded by Mr. Michaud to approve the permanent licensure applications submitted by: Derek Bunch, DO; Michael Domina, DO; Robert Gayle, DO; Chris Howard, DO; Nicole Jederlinic, DO; Catherine Lok, DO; Jeremy Proctor, DO and Kerry Tobias, DO.

VI. Adjournment

MOTION: Made by Dr. Ryan and seconded by Dr. Stringos with the vote, via roll, call being unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 11 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan E Strout, Executive Secretary